ECON 3112-001 and 002
Econometrics
Spring 2021
Instructor: Dr. Carol O. Stivender

"Try not to have a good time . . . this is supposed to be educational."

Lucy, from "Peanuts"

This course can change your life. Seriously.

Dr. Stivender

Instructor: Dr. C. Stivender
Office: Still at my house
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Office Hours: Mon: 1:30pm – 2:15pm (Zoom)
                    and by appointment as needed.

Tutoring: Sofia Nussbaum, Office Hours (Zoom) Tue 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Course Materials: Canvas, Stata, Zoom

Text: <u>Econometrics: Basic and Applied</u> - Johnson, Johnson and Buce
                    - available free on Canvas in pdf form, or used online for cheap.

Course Description: Prerequisites: ECON 2101 and 2102, MATH 1120 or 1241, STAT 1220 and INFO 2130. Econometric techniques, including simple and multiple least squares regression with problems and analyses.

Course Objectives: To help students understand how the tools of statistics are used to conduct research and understand data relating to business and social economic issues.

Course Policies

Attendance:
Attendance is tough to require in our current situation. I know how you are able to join a Zoom meeting and not really be there (faculty do that too). So, for the first time, I'm not keeping track of attendance this semester. That being said, research shows us that being there is much better than not being there where grades are concerned. So it is in your best interest to attend all live sessions and view all recorded material. I don't know how much of each method we will have until I finish prepping the class. I have only taught this class online when we shut down at the end of last Fall semester, so I'm still pondering what to do. I will modify this syllabus as I work out the details.

Make-up work and late work: There are no make-ups for tests or assignments except for students with written statements from university officials stating that they are participating in university business. When missing class, (synchronous or asynchronous) students will be responsible for all information and materials presented in class, and are expected to obtain class notes or assignments from other students in the class. So get your work done EARLY (not just in time or late) and take good care of yourself.

***STATA* Statistical Software:** The software we will use in class and for projects is *STATA,* and is available on all Belk College computers. If you prefer having access to *STATA* on your own computer you can take advantage of very good prices (from $48 for 6-month access) for UNC Charlotte students through the Campus GradPlan on STATA's website: http://www.stata.com/order/new/edu/gradplans/student-pricing/ You can also access Stata from the University system at https://uncc.apporto.com/ (Links to an external site.)
Here is the Help Page: https://spaces.uncc.edu/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=49033481

Grading

Tests: Each of three tests could be a mixture of multiple choice, short answer, essay, interpretation and problem questions, and will cover chapters and material determined as we go.   Students must use a non-graphing calculator . Three tests constitute a total of 60 percent of the final grade. Tests will be uploaded to Canvas for grading. You will need to be able to convert your handwritten test pages to a pdf file for uploading.

Homework: There are four required homework assignments The homework is intended to reinforce your understanding of the material, not to be labor intensive just for homework's sake. Homework will constitute 20 percent of the final grade. No late homework will be accepted. Do yourself a favor and do all of the homework early. Don't miss a deadline. Homework will be uploaded to Canvas for grading. You will need to be able to convert your handwritten answers to a pdf file for uploading, or type answers into the original document.

Project: The econometric modeling project will evolve throughout the semester as we cover material required to complete it. The project requires you and a well-chosen partner to develop a research question and design an econometric model to answer the question. The steps required for the project include (due dates to be determined):

1. Formulating the research question
2. Defining the economic model and resulting econometric model
3. Building the data set required to address the question
4. Estimating the econometric model in Stata and interpreting the results

This project constitutes 20 percent of the final grade. We will discuss the project all semester as we reach milestones in the material that you need for completing the project.

Calculating the grade: Final letter grades will be calculated using three test scores, (including any extra credit points that may have been earned during the semester), the percentage earned of total homework points available, and the semester project:

Final grade = .60[(Test 1 + Test 2 + Test 3 + XC)/3) + .20(HW points earned/HW points possible) + .20(Final Project Score)

For example, assume you earned 75, 65 and 82 on the midterm tests, a 90 on the final project, 5 extra credit points, and got 85 percent of the total possible HW points. Your grade would be:

.60[(75 + 65 + 82 + 5)/3) + .20(90) + .20(85)

45.4 + 18.0 + 17.0 = **80.4**   *or (75 + 65 + 82 + 5 + 90 + 85)/5 = 80.4*

Test scores will NOT be rounded up. *Rounding of final course averages only* will follow the standard practice (only .5 or above will be rounded up to the next whole number).

I will regularly address the grading policies in class to ensure that all of you understand it.

Diversity
The Belk College of Business strives to create an inclusive academic climate in which the dignity of all individuals is respected and main-tained. Therefore, we celebrate diversity that includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, ethnicity, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

University Policy on Code of Academic Integrity
All students are required to read and abide by the Code of Student Academic Integrity. Violations of the Code of Student Academic Integrity, including plagiarism, will result in disciplinary action as provided in the Code. Definitions and examples of plagiarism are set forth in the Code. The Code is available from the Dean of Students Office or online*.*

Information on Food Insecurity
Food insecurity is defined by the USDA as "a lack of access to enough food for an active, healthy life." Food insecure categories include: reduced caloric intake, reduced food quality, lack of variety in diet, disrupted eating patterns, and hunger. Research shows that college students experience food insecurity at higher rates than the American household rate, and that food insecurity can negatively impact academic performance and persistence. In recognition of this problem, UNC Charlotte offers assistance to students facing food insecurity through an on- campus food pantry. **The Jamil Niner Student Pantry is located at 1224 John Kirk Drive, next to the Edge Apartments and accessible for students commuting by car or foot.** *It has regular hours which may change from semester to semester; please see the website at* https://ninerpantry.uncc.edu/ *for schedule and details on its services, as well as resources about hunger and food insecurity among college students.*